

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 09832 261438Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 OES-07 SP-02  
SS-15 PA-01 NEAE-00 /055 W  
-----045000 261444Z /72  
P R 261225Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2423  
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 9832

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC, IN  
SUBJECT: INDIA AND CTB

REF: A) STATE 160774; B) DELHI 9523; C) DELHI 3418

1. DEPARTMENT IS CORRECT IN CONCLUDING THAT PRIME MINISTER DESAI MADE NO REFERENCE TO INDIA'S INTEREST TO RATIFY A NON-DISCRIMINATORY CTB AT JUNE 17 PRESS CONFERENCE. LATEST AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT WE HAVE ON THE CTB IS PRIME MINISTER'S REFERENCE TO IT IN HIS SSOD SPEECH JUNE 9 WHEN HE LISTED IT AS PART (D) OF THE FIRST "STEP" OF A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE WEAPONS AND INSTRUMENTS OF VIOLENCE. ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL CORRECTED TEXT ISSUED BY THE GOI, DESAI SAID THAT THE STEP MUST CONSIST OF (A) OUTLAWING THE USS OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR MILITARY PURPOSES, (B) QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE LIMITATIONS ON NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS AND IMMEDIATE FREEZING OF STOCKPILES, (C) FORMULATION OF A TIME-BOUND PROGRAM FOR REDUCTION OF STOCKPILES, AND (D) "COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY WITH PROVISION FOR SAFEGUARD TO PREVENT BREACH OF THE TREATY WHICH IN MY VIEW CAN ONLY BE THROUGH INDEPENDENT INSPECTION."

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(FYI: CORRECTED TEXT DROPS THE WORD "ON-SITE" BEFORE INSPECTION, WHICH APPEARED IN ADVANCE TEXT. END FYI)  
THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED: "THE BAN SHOULD APPLY TO ATMOSPHERIC, UNDERGROUND AND UNDERSEA TESTS AND THOSE IN SPACE. I WOULD ALSO ADD THAT THE SYSTEM OF SAFEGUARDS SHOULD BE BASED ON UNIVERSALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION. WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE SYSTEM OF INSPECTION AND

SAFEGUARDS IS ENFORCED OBJECTIVELY AND WITHOUT BRINGING POLITICS INTO SUCH ENFORCEMENT".

2. INDIAN PRESS FOR SOME TIME HAS BEEN SPECULATING THAT THE GOI FAVORS A NON-DISCRIMINATORY TEST BAN TREATY. THE ONLY CITED SOURCE FOR THIS SPECULATION OF LATE HAS BEEN AMBASSADOR PALKHIAVALA. "HINDU" WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT EASWAR SAGAR REPORTED THAT IN HIS JUNE 17 PRESS CONFERENCE PALKIAVALA SAID THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ASSURED THE US THAT INDIA WAS WILLING TO SIGN A CTB PROVIDED IT WAS NOT DISCRIMINATORY. THE INDIAN EXPRESS'S CORRESPONDENT T.V. PARASURAM ALSO SAID THAT DESAI HAD TOLD THIS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE PRIVATELY.

3. THERE HAS BEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT AS SUCH MADE IN DELHI SINCE THE PRIME MINISTER'S RETURN. WE NOTE HOWEVER THAT THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE PM'S PRESS CONFERENCE INDICATES THAT HE REJECTED READING A PREPARED STATEMENT AS A WASTE OF TIME AND WENT DIRECTLY TO THE QUESTIONS.

BLOOD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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